

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #67

ATIC NO. - - -

DATE OF INFO 14 Aug 1947

AF NO. - - -

LOCATION 5 Miles South of Placerville,
Calif.

REPORT NO. - - -

SOURCE Civilian Couple

DATE OF REPORT - - -

DATE IN TO ATIC - - -

TIME OF SIGHTING 1600 PST

COLOR Polished Chrome

SHAPE Rocket

Estimated

SIZE 5' long - 14" deep

SPEED high

COURSE N to S (180 degrees)

Measured

NO. IN GROUP 1

ALTITUDE 750'

Estimated

LOUD - - -

Measured

PHOTOS - - -

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED Short Period

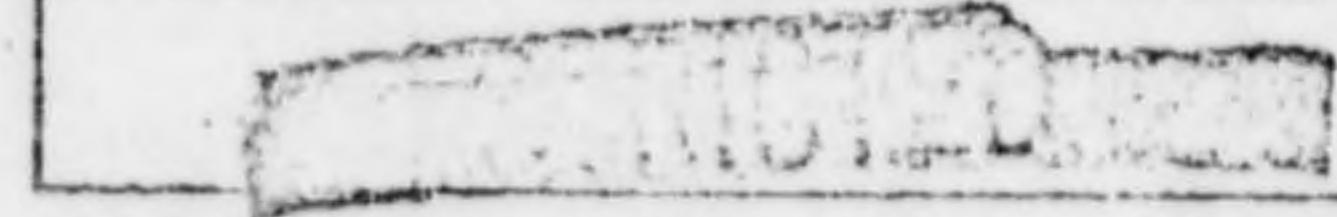
TYPE OF OBSERVATION Auto

Temporary ATIC Form 329

MANEUVERS Very shallow dive

(2 Jan 52)

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Prob Meteor

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:

#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94,
95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140,
147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216,
219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:

#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100,
112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 163, 166, 167, 175, 192,
199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:

#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115,
126, 131, 133, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163,
169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198,
200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:

#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107,
108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):

#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234,

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:

#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118,
125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213,
229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:

#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 62, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71,
75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162,
168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 228,
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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Incident #67 -- near Placerville, California -- 14 August 1947

If details of the observers' statement are accurate, it would be difficult to assign an astronomical origin to the object seen in this incident. There are a few statements which, taken alone, strongly suggest that a meteor was observed: high rate of speed, "seemed to be in a shallow dive," white smoke trail, "disappeared in a puff of dark gray smoke." However, unless the description of the object (4-6 feet long and 10-14 inches wide) and the estimated distance (less than 1000 feet) are illusory, the meteoric explanation will not hold.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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1030 hours 13 August 1947

Telephone message received from Mr. [REDACTED], City Editor, [REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Calif., and insurance executive with the firm of [REDACTED], of Sacramento, reported the following incident:

At 4:P.M. on August 14, while driving on Cedar Bayine Road, 4 to 5 miles southeast of Placerville, Calif., he, accompanied by his wife, observed a "vapor" trail moving from north to south. Closer observation revealed a piece of "shiny metal" at from 500 to 1000 feet altitude moving at a "high rate of speed". The object appeared to be more "rocket-shaped" than disc-shaped. It appeared to be approximately 5 feet in length and was "tilted in a semi-circle".

The object struck the ground with a "puff of black smoke" about 100 feet below the top of a hill which was approximately 750 feet ahead of the automobile driven by the observer. An intervening canyon prevented investigation of the location where the object was observed to have landed.

The observer is able to identify the location where the object was observed to land.

(Mr. [REDACTED] is a University of California graduate, and is personally known by members of the Oakland Tribune staff. He is a brother-in-law of [REDACTED] of the Marine Hospital of Southern California.)

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DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS: NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR 5200.10

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Rum

BEM

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

WADDA
A-5

11 SEP 1947

STATION: Investigation of claims

To: Commanding General, Army
Air Forces, USA, AFM-2

Attached: (016) For your information

FOR THE COMMUNICATING COMMANDER

Julian W. Wadsworth

L. T. Wadsworth
(016) copy, 8-8-28

WADDA

11 SEP 1947

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

This image shows a document page that has been significantly redacted. The majority of the page is covered by large, solid black rectangular redaction marks. These marks are positioned in several horizontal rows across the center of the page. There is some very faint, illegible text visible through the redaction, particularly in the upper right quadrant where the redaction is less dense. The overall appearance is that of a heavily censored or protected document.

RECORDED BY [REDACTED]

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AMERICAN
CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
OF MASSACHUSETTS
vs.
THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS
and
THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Observer first noticed a white smoke trail and while searching for its source he saw an object 4 to 6 ft. in length by 10 to 14 inches wide and of metal color which gave off a very bright reflection like highly polished chromium. It was first observed at 1030 position to the automobile. Upon reaching a 1200 position it was engulfed in a puff of dark gray smoke about 10 ft. in diameter. There was a change in the color of the smoke. The object was traveling at a terrific speed and seemed to be in a shallow dive. When the puff of smoke appeared the object disappeared completely. No particles were observed falling from from it. The point of disappearance seemed to be about 800 yards in front of [REDACTED]. There was no possibility of being hidden by vegetation or terrain. It appeared rectangular for the most part, but once it appeared to have a very slightly curved top surface. It seemed more like a rocket than disc like. It seemed tilted in a semi circle.

NOTE:

Agent notes the point of observation would afford a sweeping view thru 40° of the canyon and the south side of Webber Creek.

([REDACTED] was not definite as to what part of the field of view he had seen the object and indicated that it could have been as far as the horizon.) Any object or particles thereof would be in a six square mile area of wooded mountainous terrain full of canyons and ravines.

Agent thought that witness could have [REDACTED] seen a conventional type of Aircraft which due to the distance from which it was observed presented no distinguishing features for the short period it was observed, however agent could not account for the smoke trail.

INCIDENT SUMMARY SHEET

(To be filled out and retained in files)

1. Date of Observation . 14 Aug 47. #67
2. Time of Observation . 1600. UNCLASSIFIED
3. Where was Object(s) Sighted . FIVE MILES SOUTH OF PLACERVILLE, CALIF.
. ~~EXACT LOCATION UNKNOWN~~ 38° 42' 45" North, 120° 47' 15" West
4. Observer's Position GROUND.
(i.e. ground, air, control tower, etc.)
5. Name and Address of Observer . MR. [REDACTED] AND WIFE
. BOX [REDACTED] LUKUM, EL DORADO COUNTY, CALIF.
6. Occupation and/or Hobbies INSURANCE EXECUTIVE WITH THE FIRM OF MC GUIRE AND
WALLIS. AND IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
7. Attention Attracted to Object (s) By
8. Number of Object(s) Sighted
9. Size of Object(s) . 5 ft. Long 12-14" in depth.
10. Color of Object(s) Polished Chromium.
11. Shape (Sketch if Possible) Seemed rectangular except for a short period when it
appeared to have a slightly curved top surface. Seemed tilted in a semi circle.
More rocket shaped than disc shaped.
12. Nature of Luminosity
13. Estimated Distance of Object from Observer . Estimated 750 ft.
14. Speed of Object(s) High rate of speed.
15. Time in Sight . Short period.
16. Tactics . In a very shallow dive.
17. Sound Made by Object(s) Not stated.
18. Direction of Flight of Object(s) . North to South.
19. Apparent Construction (Of What Material or Substance) Metallic.
20. Effect of Objects on Clouds and/or Exhaust Trail A white smoke trail was first
observed. Later object was enveloped in puff of dark gray smoke.
21. Weather Conditions Existing at the Time Fair with sunshine
22. Peculiarities Noted . Disappeared in a puff of dark gray smoke.
23. Summary of Incident See Reverse